

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.-63. (Canceled)

¹
~~64~~. (Previously Presented) A drill bit, comprising:

a bit body;

a plurality of roller cone cutters, each rotatably mounted on the bit body about a
respective cone axis and having plurality of rows of cutting inserts
thereon;

wherein the plurality of rows includes a gage row having a gage insert, wherein
the gage insert comprises an insert axis, wherein said insert axis is
substantially normal to a gage curve of said drill bit.

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~~65~~. (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~64~~¹, wherein said gage row is
disposed at a selected distance from a shoulder of said cone.

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~~66~~. (Allowed) The bit according to claim 65, wherein the selected distance is between
0.060 and 0.300 inches.

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~~67~~. (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~64~~¹, wherein said plurality of
rows further includes a first inner row comprising a first row insert, wherein said first
inner row is disposed at a selected distance off gage from said gage row.

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~~68~~. (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~67~~⁴, wherein the selected distance

off gage is between 0.015 and 0.250 inches.

⁶~~69~~. (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ⁴~~67~~, wherein a ratio of the selected distance to a diameter of the gage insert is less than 0.30.

⁷~~70~~. (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ⁴~~67~~, wherein a ratio of a diameter of the gage insert to the first row insert is less than 0.75.

⁸~~71~~. (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ¹~~64~~, wherein said plurality of rows further includes a first inner row comprising a first row insert, wherein said first inner row is disposed such that a ratio of an overlap distance between the first row insert and the gage insert to a diameter of said gage insert is greater than 0.40.

⁹~~72~~. (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ¹~~64~~, wherein the gage insert extends further from the cone at a selected distance, such that a ratio of a step distance of the gage insert to said selected distance is greater than 0.80.

¹⁰~~73~~. (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ¹~~64~~, wherein the gage insert comprise a superabrasive material.

74.-84. (Canceled)

¹¹~~85~~. (Previously Presented) A drill bit, comprising:

a bit body;

a plurality of roller cone cutters, each rotatably mounted on the bit body about a respective cone axis and having plurality of rows of cutting inserts thereon;

wherein the plurality of rows includes a gage row having a gage insert, wherein the gage insert comprises a cutting portion and a base portion having a base axis extending through the center of the base, wherein the cutting portion is canted with respect to the base portion thereby forming a wedge shape portion, such that a radius through a center point of the cutting portion forms an angle of at least 5 degrees with respect to the base axis.

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~~86.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~85~~, wherein a radius through a contact point of the cutting portion forms an acute angle with respect to the base axis.

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~~87.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~85~~, wherein the acute angle is between 25 and 55 degrees.

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~~88.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~85~~, wherein said gage row is disposed at a selected distance from a shoulder of said cone.

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~~89.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~88~~, wherein the selected distance is between 0.060 and 0.300 inches.

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~~90.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~85~~, wherein said plurality of rows further includes a first inner row having a first row insert, wherein said first inner row is disposed at a selected distance off gage from said gage row.

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~~91.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~90~~, wherein the selected distance off gage is between 0.015 and 0.250 inches.

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~~92.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~90~~, wherein a ratio of the selected distance to a diameter of the gage insert is less than 0.30.

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~~93.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~90~~, wherein a ratio of a diameter of the gage insert to the first row insert is less than 0.75.

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~~94.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~85~~, wherein said plurality of rows further includes a first inner row having a first row insert, wherein said first inner row is disposed such that a ratio of an overlap distance between the first inner row and the gage row to a diameter of said gage insert is greater than 0.40.

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~~95.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~85~~, wherein the gage insert extends further from the cone at a selected distance, such that a ratio of a step distance of the gage insert to said selected distance is greater than 0.80.

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~~96.~~ (Previously Presented) The bit according to claim ~~85~~, wherein the gage insert comprise a superabrasive material.